



FISCAL MEMORANDUM

HB 296 - SB 723

March 27, 2023

SUMMARY OF BILL AS AMENDED (006760): Requires a person entering into employment as a municipal or county building, plumbing, mechanical, or electrical inspector in a jurisdiction that is exempt from the State Fire Marshal's Office (SFMO) statewide building standards, to obtain either a commercial or residential certification, or both, in their respective discipline within 12 months of the date of employment. Requires such person(s) to perform field inspections as of the date of employment.

FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL AS AMENDED:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

Assumptions for the bill as amended:

- Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 68-120-101, the State Fire Marshal establishes minimum statewide building standards for the design, construction, alteration, and repair of state, municipal, county, and private buildings.
- Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 68-120-118(a)(1)(A) and (B), the SFMO requires all persons entering into employment after July 1, 2008, as a municipal, county or state employed plumbing inspector, mechanical inspector, to be certified within 12 months of employment and all person entering into employment after January 1, 2020, as a municipal, county, or state-employed electrical inspector to be certified.
- Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 68-120-101(b), a county or municipality can vote to exempt the local entity from statewide building standards for one and two-family dwellings.
- The provisions in the legislation establish that even an exempt county under the statute will still need to comply with the SFMO building standards despite being lawfully exempt from the standards, and gives such exempt counties 12 months to have its electrical inspectors certified from the date of employment in addition to its building, plumbing and mechanical inspectors.
- The SFMO will not lose any regulatory authority and will not be significantly impacted.
- Based on information provided by DCI there will not be an increase in the number of certifications as a result of the legislation.
- Based on information provided by local entities, it can be assumed that local entities are already complying with these SFMO standards in spite of being exempt.

- Any local entity that will need to certify its employees or have its employees certified can comply with the new regulation within existing resources or will do so at the employees' expense.
- Any impact to state or local government will not be significant.

IMPACT TO COMMERCE OF BILL AS AMENDED:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

Assumption:

- No significant impact to commerce or jobs in Tennessee.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Krista Lee Carsner". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

/lm